

INDUSTRIAL SCRAP CORPORATION

East Chicago, Lake County, IN
Revised June 11, 1999

Site Location and Description

This site is approximately ten acres of property that is adjacent to the Industrial Scrap Corporation's (ISC) plant in the City of East Chicago. The address is 425 West Street.

Zip Code: 46312

Site Uses and Past Activities

The land was reclaimed from wetlands along the banks of the Grand Calumet River in the 1930s and 1940s. In the 1950s, the property was used as a municipal waste dump. In the mid-1980s, it was used by Energy Salvage Associates, Inc. for a waste-to-energy facility. This project was supposed to involve burning waste from the Chicago area. However, most of the waste was dumped in huge piles on the site. Soon after Energy Salvage Associates, Inc. closed, thousands of tons of wastes caught fire and burned for weeks. After the fire, the property became a popular site for illegal dumping.

ISC was interested in acquiring the property to expand its plant and worked together with the US EPA, IDEM, and the Northwest Indiana Brownfields Redevelopment Project, Inc. to assess and clean up the site.

Contaminants and Impacts

In September 1997, approximately 1,000 cubic yards of chromium contaminated industrial process waste was removed from the site. In November 1997, potentially responsible parties removed approximately 8,500 cubic yards of waste material. Since then, a subsurface soil and groundwater investigation was conducted by U.S. EPA and a private consulting firm for the Industrial Scrap Corporation. Solid waste removal activities were also conducted. This investigation determined that there is no immediate risk of exposure to the contamination.

Lead Agency

IDEM

Community Concerns

None specified.

Actions Taken



Indiana Department of Environmental Management
Office of Land Quality

IDEM issued a Comfort Letter in March 1998 for this site. The letter addresses liability issues and should assist the City of East Chicago with responsible brownfields redevelopment.

Reuse and Redevelopment

The Industrial Scrap Corporation plans to purchase the property and use it as an auto recycling facility.

Current Status

IDEM plans no further action at the property unless and until the conditions at the property should change, or IDEM later discovers the reports were inaccurate concerning the potential contamination at the property.

The City of East Chicago and other stakeholders can proceed with redevelopment. Redevelopment of the property is not expected to pose any additional risk to human health or result in any additional harm to the environment. In addition, future use is expected to inhibit further illegal solid waste disposal activities.

Future Actions

No further IDEM actions are planned.

Cost Estimates

Comfort Letters are provided at no cost to the recipient.

For More Information

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